

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 188629
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CA-01 SCS-06 SS-15 NSCE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 L-03 H-01
/054 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:REGRIBBIN:DMA
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR
CASCA:SHOPKINS
HA:RMAXIM

-----071823 261958Z /46

O R 261935Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188629

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC, BY

SUBJECT: EXPULSION OF AMERICAN MISSIONARY

REF: BUJUMBURA 0864

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES YOUR REPORTING AND DISCUSSIONS TO DATE WITH GRB CONCERNING REASONS UNDERLYING ROBINSON EXPULSION. IN VIEW OF ROBINSON'S LONG SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF BURUNDI AND FACT THAT EXPULSION EXPLAINED NOT ON SECURITY GROUNDS OR BASED ON ACCUSATIONS THAT ROBINSON IN VIOLATION OF BURUNDIAN LAW, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH GRB WOULD BE USEFUL. IF YOU AGREE TO TAKE THE FOLLOWINGLINE WITH GRB, PLEASE ADVISE AND WE WILL DO THE SAME WITH AMBASSADOR NZEYIMANA.

2. DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT THE GRB ACTING WITHIN
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ITS SOVEREIGN RIGHT IN EXPELLING ROBINSON. WE ARE NOT COMMENTING ON THE MERITS OF THE CASE, BUT ON THE PROCESS OF THE EXPULSION.

3. HOWEVER, GRB SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE EXPULSION OF LONG-TIME MISSIONARY RESIDENT INEVITABLY HAS AN ADVERSE IMPACT

ON BURUNDI'S HUMAN RIGHTS IMAGE, ESPECIALLY ON THE QUESTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WHICH IS GENERALLY WELL RESPECTED HUMAN RIGHT.

4. IN OUR VIEW, THE EXPULSION IS PERHAPS AN UNNECESSARY ACTION. WE DEEM IT PREFERABLE THAT GRB ENCOURAGE PARTIES TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVELY, OR IF NEED BE, IN THE COURTS. THIS MIGHT HAVE RESULTED IN CHURCH ACTION TO TRANSFER ROBINSON, HAD THAT SEEMED WARRANTED.

5. EXPULSION THEREFORE SHOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS A POSSIBLE END, NOT START, OF A PROBLEM-SOLVING PROCESS AND SHOULD BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL OTHER AVENUES OF REDRESS ARE EXHAUSTED. GENERAL INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE IS TO USE EXPULSION CAUTIOUSLY ON SECURITY OR POLITICAL INTERFERENCE GROUNDS. WE NOTE THAT IN THE ROBINSON CASE GRB HAS UNFORTUNATELY RESORTED TO EXPULSION WHEN THE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION WERE NEITHER CLEAR NOR PERSUASIVE AS VIEWED FROM ABROAD.

6. WE HOPE THAT IN CASES OF THIS SORT INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZENS, THAT THE GRB WILL KEEP THE EMBASSY ABREAST OF ANY PROBLEMS WHICH DO DEVELOP. CHRISTOPHER

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLSWING
APPROVED BY AF/C:WLSWING
AF/W:RGHOUDEK

-----019189 292124Z /70

O 292110Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUFHOU/AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU IMMEDIATE 7407
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188629

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 188629 SENT ACTION BUJUMBURA

INFO KIGALI JUL 26.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188629

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, RELIGIOUS LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE188629
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REGRIBBIN:DMA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780306-1154
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780718/aaaaaotn.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BUJUMBURA 864
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1877820
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPULSION OF AMERICAN MISSIONARY
TAGS: PINS, CASC, BY
To: BUJUMBURA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/abf2576c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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